

USE RCB DATE 4/23/8 J

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Noriyuki TAJIMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3742

Serial No : 10/596,193

Examiner: P.H. Leung

Filed : June 2, 2006

Confirmation No.: 3321

For : HEATING APPARATUS, FIXING APPARATUS AND
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS (as previously amended)

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of January 25, 2008, in which a three month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on April 25, 2008, the present Response having been submitted within two months of the date of the Final Office Action (i.e., on or by March 25, 2008), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.
Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.
An Appendix of explanatory Figures is attached hereto.